



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Office of Legislative Liaison
Washington, D. C. 20505

Telephone: 351-6121
11 March 1985

TO: Mr. Bernie McMahon, Staff Director
Select Committee on Intelligence
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Enclosed is a further request from
Senator D'Amato. We are presently checking
our records on these names. A copy of our
reply will be forwarded to the Committee.



LIAISON DIVISION

HCD review completed under
NWC Disclosure Act

War Criminals

ALFONSE M. D'AMATO
NEW YORK

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

Executive Registry

85- 369/2

February 26, 1985

OCL

85-0785

The Honorable William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Bill:

I deeply appreciate your swift and positive response to my January 24, 1985 letter requesting a search for all documents relating to Dr. Josef Mengele, the infamous Nazi "Angel of Death" of Auschwitz. The good work done by Stanley Sporkin and [redacted] of your staff was largely responsible for the success of this effort.

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I write again to ask your further assistance in this case. Several of the documents provided reportedly contained references to a man named Becker. His name was apparently blacked out in the review process removing classified information from the documents so they could be publicly released. Please ask your staff to re-examine these documents and review their conclusion that Becker's name and the name of one of his associates, Morales or Morelli, be excised from the released version of these documents. I believe these names are very important leads in the search for Mengele and should not have been censored.

Also, please ask your staff to search your records for any documents pertaining to the following individuals who are apparently associates of Mengele: Ricardo Riefenstahl; Joachim Fieberkorn; Felix (possible middle name Rogelio) Becker (possible matronym Macchi) (possible date of birth April 2, 1935); a man named Varella, aka Varella Segovia, aka Enio Anibal, aka Inio Varella, aka "Baby"; Jose Morales, aka Morellus, aka Morelli (Morales, Morelli, and Varella could be aliases for the same person); August Joseph Ricord, date of birth April 26, 1911; Ceasar Bianchi; Pierre Gahou; Juan Benitoz; Josep Caramian; and Renato Lestra.

Riefenstahl and Fieberkorn are apparently Paraguayans who are presently in prison in West Germany on drug smuggling charges. They were arrested in 1982, and were the subjects of a recent Der Spiegel article. Becker, Varella, Morales, Ricord, Bianchi, Gahou, Benitoz, and Lestra were arrested in October, 1970, in New York for heroin smuggling. Becker and Ricord served time in Federal prison. Varella and others, reportedly escaped Federal custody, fleeing the West Street,

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New York, detention center in 1971. At least Becker is a Paraguayan. Varella is known to have twenty aliases and nine known associates. Varella is probably and Morales may also be Paraguayan. Ricord is a Frenchman, as is Gahou. Additional details on the others are unknown at this time, but are being sought.

A key question which has emerged as a result of recent developments is whether the Becker reportedly named in the CIA and other agency documents released to me on February 21, 1985, is the same man as the Felix (Rogelio) Becker (Macchi) referred to above. I would appreciate any assistance you could provide in resolving this issue.

I hope your able staff will be also be successful in this search. Under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act, please prepare any documents you locate for public release. If you do locate any documents on these individuals, I would appreciate a private, personal briefing on them at your earliest convenience.

Again, I appreciate your swift and enthusiastic cooperation in this important effort.

Warm personal regards.

Sincerely,



Alfonse D'Amato
United States Senator